



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Substitute Bill No. 5495

* _____HB05495KIDHS_030508_____*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION OF YOUTH FROM THE
CARE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) On or before July 1, 2009,
2 and annually thereafter, the Commissioners of Children and Families
3 and Mental Health and Addiction Services shall, within available
4 appropriations, jointly report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the
5 general statutes, to the Community Mental Health Strategy Board,
6 established pursuant to section 17a-485b of the general statutes, and to
7 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
8 cognizance of matters relating to human services, and appropriations
9 and the budgets of state agencies and the select committee of the
10 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children on
11 the transition process for the young adults from the Department of
12 Children and Families to the Department of Mental Health and
13 Addiction Services.

14 (b) The report shall include:

15 (1) A detailed description of such process;

16 (2) (A) The number of children and youth in the care of the
17 Department of Children and Families who are fourteen years of age or

18 older and who may require services from the Department of Mental
19 Health and Addiction Services upon reaching age eighteen, (B) the
20 diagnostic and behavioral issues related to the reason for potential
21 referral to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services,
22 (C) the anticipated service needs of such children and youth through
23 age twenty-one, (D) the identified permanency plans, and (E) the
24 anticipated budget implications for each department for two years
25 following the date of the report;

26 (3) (A) The number of youth in the care of the Department of
27 Children and Families aged sixteen years of age or older who may
28 require services from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
29 Services upon reaching age eighteen, (B) the diagnostic and behavioral
30 issues related to the reason for potential referral to the Department of
31 Mental Health and Addiction Services, (C) the anticipated service
32 needs of such youth through age twenty-one, (D) the identified
33 permanency plans, and (E) the anticipated budget implications for
34 each department for two years following the date of the report;

35 (4) For youth described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of
36 this subsection, (A) the average length of time between the youth's
37 sixteenth birthday and the date of referral to the Department of Mental
38 Health and Addiction Services, (B) the average length of time between
39 the date of referral and the date of acceptance for services by the
40 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, (C) the average
41 length of time between referral and completion of a written transition
42 plan that describes the strengths and service needs necessary for
43 transition to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services,
44 (D) the number of such youth in residential treatment or in psychiatric
45 hospitals who are in discharge delay status, (E) the placement settings
46 of such youth, (F) the identified permanency plans, and (G) the
47 number of such youth (i) who have been adjudicated delinquent, (ii)
48 who have been arrested as adults, and (iii) incarcerated in a facility
49 operated by the Department of Correction, and the average length of
50 incarceration;

51 (5) The number of youth referred by the Department of Children
52 and Families who were denied services by the Department of Mental
53 Health and Addiction Services, and the reasons for such denials; and

54 (6) For youth referred by the Department of Children and Families
55 who were accepted for services by the Department of Mental Health
56 and Addiction Services, (A) the average length of time between the
57 youth's eighteenth birthday and placement in a clinically appropriate
58 level of care, (B) the number receiving services through young adult
59 services division of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
60 Services and the services provided, (C) the number receiving services
61 through other divisions of the department and the services provided,
62 (D) the number who refuse, withdraw or are discharged, and the
63 average length of time between acceptance and refusal, withdrawal or
64 discharge, and (E) the number arrested or incarcerated prior to their
65 twenty-first birthday.

66 (c) In addition to the information required pursuant to subsection
67 (b) of this section, the commissioners shall jointly review and include
68 in the report: Any barriers to (1) referring no later than thirty days
69 after their sixteenth birthday all youth who are in the care of the
70 Department of Children and Families, and who may require services
71 from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; (2)
72 completing an eligibility determination no later than thirty days after
73 the date of referral for all such youth; (3) developing appropriate
74 transition plans no later than thirty days after a determination that a
75 youth will be accepted for services from the Department of Mental
76 Health and Addiction Services; (4) providing clinically appropriate
77 services to youth in the care of the Department of Children and
78 Families who may later be referred to the Department of Mental
79 Health and Addiction Services; and (5) providing clinically
80 appropriate services to young adults upon transition to the
81 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
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Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

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